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25X1

The following report concerns activities at the Stahl- und Walzwerk Brandenburg during 1951 and the first half of 1952

1. The first Siemens-Martin furnace was put in operation on 20 July 1950. It was planned to blow in an additional furnace every five or six weeks, in order to have ten SM furnaces of 100 tons each with a total capacity of 500,000 tons a year operating in 1951. This object was not achieved. The second furnace began operation on 14 September 1950, the third in the middle of December 1950, and the fourth in early January 1951. By the middle of May furnaces V and VI were operating also, as were furnaces VII and VIII by the end of 1951. The construction of furnaces IX and X was temporarily abandoned.

2. The delayed operation of the furnaces and the temporary loss of furnaces IX and X were responsible for the nonfulfillment of quotas in 1951 and 1952. The quota for 1951 amounted to 385,000 tons, whereas actual production amounted to only 360,000 tons. The following list shows the distribution of the nonfulfillment of the quota over the first four months of 1952.

	Quota	Actual Production
January 1952	40,000 tons	35,000 tons
February 1952	38,000 "	37,000 "
March 1952	42,000 "	38,000 "
April 1952	42,000 "	39,000 "

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25X1

3. An attempt was made to reach the planned crude steel production figure of 500,000 tons a year with the available eight furnaces. By deepening the hearth and increasing the draft of the preheaters, the furnaces can be charged with 160 to 170 tons instead of the usual 100 tons. Originally a regular charge consisted of 80 to 85 tons of scrap metal, seven to eight tons of coal, and two to three tons of Thomas steel. Since about the middle of 1951, the 100-ton SM furnaces have been charged as follows: 50 tons of pig iron from Fürstenburg, 100 tons of scrap metal, five to six tons of Thomas steel, and one ton of anthracite, and about 10 tons of lime.

4. The Thomas steel (ferrosilicon from the USSR) must be added because the pig iron from Fürstenberg does not contain enough silicon. Usually about three tons of lime are put in one charge, but since the Fürstenburg pig contains too much sulphur and phosphorus, the addition of three times the regular amount of lime is necessary. Nevertheless, the sulphur content of the Brandenburg raw steel amounts to 198 points instead of the normal maximum of 40. Besides, up to 28 hours is required for a charge. The 60 to 70 percent higher charge, however, could compensate neither for the frequent breakdown of the furnaces nor for the loss of furnaces IX and X. Although the work is done in three shifts including holidays, the breakdown of furnaces alone is responsible for the considerable decrease in production. Frequently, several furnaces break down simultaneously and remain out of operation for one or more weeks because of boiler breakdowns, casting plate breakdowns, or other extensive repairs, for which hurried and defective installations, improper handling, and excessive charging - sometimes all three factors combined - are responsible. In general, a production deficit of 15 to 20 percent must be reckoned with as a result of breakdowns.

5. As a result of too great a pressure on the shank plates (Schaftplatten) and on the brickwork, the steel frequently runs into the gas chambers which then must be blasted. This often happens twice a week. The furnace platform, the girders, the cable installations, the switch tracks are all apt to burn out and require replacement. Each breakdown amounts to at least one half million east marks. In addition, there is the resultant loss of production of two to three weeks for each furnace breakdown and/or furnace roof collapse. The most frequent breakdowns are caused by overloading the shaft plates and overtaxing the preheaters. They are also caused by the lack of qualified experts. Brandenburg has only a few experienced metallurgists. Furnace V, operated entirely by young workers, is where the most frequent production stoppages occur.

6. Defects in the technical equipment also contribute to the work stoppages. The water supply is unsatisfactory; welded pipes have to be used because of the lack of seamless pipes; cooling frames are patched up, etc. The gas supply causes difficulties, because the cooling chambers in the SM furnaces must often be mended. The exhausts in all the furnaces are defective, and the furnace control is poor. There is recurrent trouble with the gas generators, because they are heated with lignite rather than bituminous coal. This year the attempt is being made to overcome this difficulty by adding 10 percent bituminous coal from Freital to the lignite briquettes.

7. The steel casting in Brandenburg is based on the coal scrap process, however, neither bituminous coal in sufficient quantities nor scrap of sufficient quality is available. Instead of graded scrap, mostly plates and parts of broken-down machinery, which the steel workers call trumpet tin, are used instead of the high-grade smelting scrap. The ore that is added is of poor quality containing much sulphur and phosphorus. This results in an unproportionately large number of faulty charges (Fehlchargen) with a very high silicon content. There were 6,000 tons of faulty charges produced in December 1951, 500 tons of which DHZ Metallurgie refused to accept. The faulty charges had to be smelted again. The average waste amounts to 35 and 40 percent. These frequent interruptions in production and excessively long production periods cause delays of five to six hours for the entire works, for which the worker must pay the piper. According to the collective contract the workers are paid only 90 percent of the full hourly wage during these delays.

25X1

The use of Thomas steel, mentioned in paragraph 4 above did not begin until 1952.

8. It is planned to produce 480,000 tons of flawless steel in 1952. This requires a production of 506,000 tons of good quality steel taking into account the planned increase in production. Adding an estimated 12 percent waste, the quota for 1952 would be about 1.87 tons a man/work hour.

9. The workers are penalized for the increase in the costs of production, which is actually attributable to the inadequate planning, the lack of equipment, the raw material situation, and the poor qualifications of most of the workers. The amount of faulty charges is subtracted from the total tonnage credited to the worker. Despite this the cost of production rises and requires that it be supported from investment funds. The planned cost of production for each ton of steel in 1952 was set at 132 east marks. The actual costs amounted to at least 148 east marks which required that a ton of steel be supported in price between 12 and 16 east marks.

10. Among the various deficiencies in the technical equipment was a shortage in cranes. It was possible to get some cranes from the VEB's and SAG's. At first only one charging crane was available, and that cane from DEMAG in Duisburg between the end of December 1950 and early in January 1951. In the meantime Bleichert in Leipzig built three charging cranes modelled on the DEMAG crane, but the Bleichert cranes have no auxiliary trolleys. DEMAG in Duisburg also delivered a trough grab crane (Muldengreiferkran) and a 10-ton traveling crane. Trough grab cranes are under construction at ABUS Köthen where they are being copied from the DEMAG model. ABUS Köthen and ABUS Eberswalde are also copying traveling cranes, which are also being constructed in Brandenburg. The bucket trolley produced by DEMAG is also being copied in Leipzig by Bleichert. The Brandenburg steel works has placed many additional orders with DEMAG in Duisburg and with MAN. Since no spare parts can be obtained from the West at this time, these must be produced separately by ABUS in Wildau and SAG Wolf-Buckau in Magdeburg.

11. One ingot rolling mill with duo-roll train, one billet and slabbing mill, one sheet rolling train, one roller foundry, and one cast-iron foundry were planned for the rolling mill at Brandenburg.

12. The construction of the 850 duo-roll train was begun in late April 1952. In view of the difficulties encountered with the foundation of the steel mill mind, the foundation of the duo-roll train was made of cement from Nienburg, which is especially strong.

13. Because of the inability to obtain a duo-roll train from the West, the central construction office designed one which the ABUS in Wildau will build. Three pit heating furnaces and two tong cranes have been completed in the meantime. The DDR does not produce the 25,000-horsepower engines required for the plant. Presumably these engines are supplied by the USSR. This means an additional delay in the construction of the rolling mill, which is already a full year behind schedule.

14. The duo-roll train is to make tracks and heavy profiles. An adjuster for the duo-roll train is under construction at ABUS Wildau, which will not be completed in 1952. The erection of a wire-roll train for all thicknesses up to 15 millimeters is planned for 1953. It is supposed to be ready for delivery at the Skoda works in Czechoslovakia. The hall for it has been under construction since early April. The foundations have been laid and work on the first row of supports has been started.

15. A 1050 blooming roll train (slabs, billets for wire-roll train) has been on order with ABUS Wildau since 1951. The coarse plates for it are to be rolled in Kirchmöser to keep that mill working. A pipe-rolling mill with pipe-welding equipment (not seamless) has been on order with ABUS Wildau since 1951. The foundations for the 1050 blooming roll train and the pipe rolling mill are under construction.

16. Work has been in progress since about the beginning of May on a gas line which is to connect the Brandenburg combine with the long-distance gas supply line between Magdeburg and Berlin. This line, being built by Bau-Union Brandenburg, will be tapped near Brilow, Brandenburg.

17. The construction of a central scrapyard is planned for the early part of 1953 on land formerly belonging to Opel and presently used as a scrap storage depot. The city of Brandenburg has leased out additional land formerly belonging to Opel at a rental of about 95,000 east marks a month. Three large baling presses, six cranes, and a large portal crane are to be erected in the central scrapyard.

18. An underpass for the Magdeburg to Berlin highway is planned for the spring of 1953. At the same time the city railroad between Brandenburg, Gorden, and Rathenow is to be rerouted.

19. The temporary laboratory which thitherto had been housed in the steel mill will move to a new, enlarged central laboratory to which a material testing office will be added. The foundations for this central laboratory have been laid.

20. The personnel of the Brandenburg steel and rolling mill numbers about 2,500, of which 600 are in the steel mill and about 150 are in the rolling mill which is being constructed. Outside workers employed in the expansion of the mill number 1,500. The remaining 200 or so men are from the penitentiary in Brandenburg.

21. The following is a list of personalities employed at the Stahl- und Walzwerk Brandenburg including the position they hold and some personal facts concerning them.

Plant Manager

Herbert Greif (from January 1950 to September 1951); about 37 years old; carpenter; from Saxony; KP/SED; placed in the job by the ZK; [redacted] 25X1

25X1

Peter Götzl, (since September 1951); 26-27 years old; [redacted] KP/SED, FDJ, was graduated from several party schools; came to Maxhutte from Saalfeld, first secretary of the SED plant group.

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Chief Engineer

Fritz Franz; about 63 years old; SED; from Thale; chairman of the plant group for German-Soviet Friendship; chairman of the Technical Association (Kammer der Technik) in Brandenburg; activist; was manager of the rolling mill in Thale; came to the plant in 1950.

Managers of the Steel Mill

Rudolf Krug; about 50 years old; no party affiliations, replaced Dr. Henke in February 1951; suspended in August 1951 and replaced by engineer (fnu) Hiller, but reinstated by ZK six weeks later; from Grödnitz, where he was director of the electric furnace department.

Dr. Ing. (fnu) Henke; about 36-38 years old; from West Germany; had just completed metallurgy studies when he applied for a position with the Russian Zone central administration; started work with DWK in the steel industry division; when promotions did not come up to expectations applied for position of plant manager at the Brandenburg plant; dismissed in February 1951, and now director of Edelstahlwerk Döhlen.

(fnu) Hiller; about 48 years old; engineer; first with Ministry of Industry, then assistant to Krug.

Richard Schmidt; about 50 years old; SED, from Hennigsdorf, where he was a chief smelter, became national prizewinner in 1949; came to Brandenburg in 1951; at first assistant to Hiller, then replaced Hiller as temporary plant manager after Krug's return.

(fnu) Sowade; about 19 years old; SED, FDJ functionary, worked at furnace V; special protege of Selbmann; activist in October 1951, four weeks later assistant to Krug.

Steel Mill Foremen

Gustav Cords; 55-56 years old; no party affiliations; former foreman of Mittelstahl*; after 1945 with the Plaue police; [redacted] 25X1
25X1 [redacted] came to steel mill in October 1951.

Otto Henkel; about 54 years old; seaman; in Mittelstahl since 1920; 'chief smelter', at Brandenburg, activist May 1948; "Obermeister" 1951; SED candidate.

Shift leader in the steel mill (Schichtleiter)

Karl Skorreppa; about 58 years old; SPD before 1933; SED; "Meister" at Mittelstahl till 1952; 1942-45 administrator of an estate belonging to Count Königsmark; in 1951 recalled to Brandenburg as . smelter foreman (Schmelzmeister)

Otto Kuhn; SPD before 1933, now without party; with Mittelstahl since 1919; after 1945 assistant driver for a private transport firm; after the flight of the owner worked in a shipyard in Plaue; requested by the steel mill in 1950; went to Gröditz with Hermann Beier for a short instruction course; became smelter-foreman in Brandenburg and is a shift leader now; about 60 years old; has heart disease.

Smelter Foremen Schmelzmeistr

Herbert Beier; about 45 years old, FP/SED; 1922 to 1928 farm laborer, then worker; chief smelter with Mittelstahl; after 1945 informed for police with Cords; was fired, then worked in the Plaue shipyard; went to school in Gröditz with Otto Kühn in May 1950 then to Brandenburg as chief smelter, then "Meister" foreman in 1951.

Paul Urban; about 50 years old, nonparty; former smelter at Mittelstahl; after 1945 smelter in Hennigsdorf; came to Brandenburg where at the end of 1950 became chief smelter, model activitist; nicknamed Amossov.

Willi Gentsch; about 48 years old; NSDAP; after 1945 KP/SED; formerly smelter at Mittelstahl; informer; first activist at the steel mill; since 1951 smelter foreman.

Rolling Mill Manager

(fnu) Koppmeier; about 50; came to Brandenburg in March 1952; supposedly from Maxhutte.

Manager of the Rolling Mill

Willi Böttcher; about 48 years; SED; from Thale where he was "Walzmeister" on the thin plate roll train; attended several party schools; in Brandenburg since April 1952.

Karl Krause; about 62 years old; from Hennigsdorf where he was "Walzmeister"; SED; in Brandenburg since the middle of 1951; sent to Maxhutte and to Riesa temporarily to train those transferred from Brandenburg in rolling mill procedures; spent 13 weeks in each place.

Generator Department

(fnu) Bastian; 42-43 years old; engineer; no party affiliations; manager of the generator department; generator expert; SED sympathizer; lives in dwelling reserved for the educated class (Intelligenz).

25X1

(fnu) Kaden; about 50 years old; graduate engineer; from Saxony; Bastian's deputy; responsible for improvements in the plant; [redacted]

25X1

Paul Kunze; about 58 years old; from Saxony; SED; "Obermeister" of the generator department.

Fritz Vetter; about 38 years old; from Brandenburg; began as generator worker in 1950; became foreman and "Brigadier"; activist May 1951; "Meister" in the generator department in September 1951; SED.

Otto Fredersdorf; 56 years old; no party affiliations; from Brandenburg; with Mittelstahl since 1922 as generator worker; "Brigadier"; then "Meister"; activist in May 1952.

Scrapyard Department

Hubert Schmura; 46 years old; no party affiliations; locksmith; railroad engineer til 1950 with the railroad, then with Brandenburg; manager of the scrap yard department; activist in May 1951.

Paul Lakies; 45 years old; NDPD, regular army for 18 years; from East Prussia; lives in Brandenburg, Trauerberg 8; came to Brandenburg in 1951 as scrap metal worker; "Brigadier"; deputy department manager and shift leader in November 1951; activist in May 1952.

Richard Bohm; 55-56 years old; SED; member of the basic organization leadership; from the vicinity of Neuküstrin; shift leader.

Hans Manteuffel; 47 years old; no party affiliations; shift leader.

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Fritz Stoschkow; 47-48 years old; was SED, but expelled in 1950; former first chairman of the I.G. Brandenburg Land und Forst; [redacted]

25X1 [redacted] came to Brandenburg as the administrator of the scrap storage depot; shift leader of the outside scrap storage depots. The SED basic organization of the scrapyard department has requested the state party organization in Potsdam to reinstate him; from Lithuanian border district.

Günter Haase; about 38 years old; SED; former Vopo stationed at the Brandenburg penitentiary, allegedly discharged because he was a POW in the United States during the war; came to Brandenburg at the end of 1950 as scrap metal worker; was shift leader till April 1952, [redacted]

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[redacted] works exclusively with convicts in the scrapyard.

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Traffic Department	Department head; Konrad Liebe; 49 - 50 years old; SED; from the Sudetenland; activist 1 January 1952. Deputy department head: (fnu) Junghans; about 34 years old; activist 1 May 1952; SED. Locomotive "Meister" Alwin Schmeher; 49-50 years old KP/SED; locomotive engineer; burgomaster of Brist near Brandenburg; came to the steel mill in the middle of 1951; "Lokmeister" since the beginning of 1952; activist on 1 May 1952. "Rangiermeister" (shunting yardmaster) (fnu) Stallgies; about 34 years old; no party affiliation; activist since 1 May 1952; at the steel mill since 1950; "Rangiermeister" since the beginning of 1952.
Machine Shop	(fnu) Stahlkopf; department head; about 34 years old; SED; previously head of packing department; at Brandenburg since 1950; head mechanic and department head since 1952; activist since 1 May 1952. (fnu) Vogt; 54-55 years old; no party affiliations; deputy department head; (actual head).
Mechanical and Machine Construction Department	August Metz; department head; about 58 years old; "Meister" in Mittelstahl; in steel mill since 1950; "Obermeister"; SPD before 1933. (fnu) Berger; about 36 years old; no party affiliations; head of the crane constructions and repair department; formerly crane fitter in the steel mill; in the steel mill since 1951. Paul Miller; about 52 years old; formerly SPD, SED since 1951; head of the pumps and power supply department; "Meister" at Mittelstahl; 1945-50 in Plaue shipyard as "Meister"; sent to the steel mill, took over power supply; from Brist; activist 1 May 1952. Herbert Eckstein; about 30-31 years old; no party affiliations; head of the power department since April 1952. 25X1 Werner Kotzke; about 28 years old; FDJ; electrician; [redacted] Harry Reithofer, about 42 years old, no party affiliations; head of the pipeline and water supply department; plumber and pipelayer; independent plumber in Brandenburg 1947-1950; came to steel mill in 1951; pipelayer; "Brigadier"; then "Meister" in the pipefitting department. Fred Ladzick; about 38 years old; SED; head of the furnace fitting and valves department; activist October 1951; furnace fitter in the steel mill since 1950; came from Hennigsdorf; lives there yet.

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Furnace Construction Department	Fritz Dieke, department head; 54-56 years old, came from Riesa as furnace construction specialist, made department head immediately, SED
	(fnu) Ulsperger, department engineer, 34-35 years old, born in Bavaria, no political affiliation
	Paul Schulze, 48 years old, "Meister", KPD since 1928, SED; shift leader
Heating Department	Fritz Hülsmann, 59-60 years old; heat technician; SED, heads the steel mill SED basic organization
Product Check Department	Paul Klagge, scrap metal checker; about 56 years old; gardener; from Niemegk (Zauch-Belzig); SED; member of the basic organization directorate
	Paul Liewing; scrap metal checker; 59 years old; Brandenburg Communist since 1918; treasurer of the SED plant group directorate
Technology Department	Herbert Lottlowski, department head; 34 years old; SED; previously chief dispatcher (Fahrdienstleiter) in Konsum-Leks Brandenburg; became deputy head of production in the middle of June 1952
	Willi Krüger, factory group head; 38 years old; from Potsdam, where he worked in the machine construction "Referat" in the state government; machine fitter; works out the work quotas; SED since 1947.
Commercial Management	Kurt Hecht, about 48 years old; commercial director; came from Riesa about the middle of 1951; SED; introduced Opitz-Losinski methods; works closely with the ZI.
	(fnu) Kokott, plant economist; about 58-60 years old; from Hennigsdorf the end of 1951; was paymaster there; [redacted] ng SED, 25X1 close contacts with nephew Bruno Kokott, who is with the SSD.
	Karl Greiner, 48 years old; head of planning since 1951 after attending the Economic Planning Academy in Berlin-Karlshorst; SED, head of the basic organization administration
	Willi Bösel, salary accounting head; 58 years old, from Hettstedt; SED, DSF; wage calculator
Plant Security	Erwin Rudnick, "Oberkommissar"; 37 years old; was "Polizeimeister" in the Brandenburg Vopo; was Russian prisoner during the war; Moscow trained
	(fnu) Specht, "Kommissar"; 50 years old, from the Brandenburg penitentiary
Fire Guard Department	Fritz Lips, "Kommissar"; 50 years old; from the Brandenburg fire department; SED
Personnel Administration	Robert Frende, head of personnel; 50-52 years old, native Brandenburger; KPD; from the SED Kreis directorate; was first secretary of the factory group, till the end of 1951, delegate to the People's chamber; became head of personnel

[redacted] 25X1

	Hermann Graban, "Sachbearbeiter"; 50 years old; Rhinelander, came from Mecklenburg in 1950, KPD before 1933; first worked in the transport train, worked in the AGL steel works, attended factory and Kreis party schools; political instructor in the plant SED group; became personnel expert, SED
State Control Office (Staatliche Kontrolle)	Bruno Nakowski, 46-48 years old; came to the plant in 1950; then to the traffic department; was the AGL chairman of this department; head of State Control office; works with the SSD; Brandenburg city councillor
"Einsatzleiter" Wismut A.G. (Wismut Recruiting Agent)	(fnu) Feldner, 24 years old; FDJ; from Aue; recruits for Wismut for which there is a quota in each department.
25X1 [redacted]	
"Sachbearbeiter" (Administrative Officer)	Gerhard Schulz, 26 years old; in the plant since October 1951; from Kirchmöser rolling mill; where he was FDJ "Referent", SED; recruits for the Vopo
Kultur Director (Educational Director)	Paul Locherer, 55 years old; from the Brandenburg penitentiary; SED teaches in the plant party school
Social Welfare	Hermann Noack, 42 years old; was "Brigadier" in the Panther factory and TAN worker; came to the plant as first TAN worker in 1950; in the Administration Academy (Forst-Zinna) since 15 April 1952
Advertising - Plant newspaper	Walter Menzel, 49 years old, correspondent for the Märkische Volkstimme
Construction Management	Helmut Schandock, 44 years old, department head, came from the central committee of the FDGB in 1950 to be the second BGL chairman in the plant, SED
Appointed Shop Stewards (Betriebs-Gewerkschafts-Leitung) (BGL)	Gerhard Röhler, about 32 years old, from the state FDGB committee in Potsdam; BGL head in Brandenburg steel mill from January 1950 till 17 May 1952; after attending FDGB school was slated for BGL chairmanship at EKO.
	Franz Lüdemann, 45-46 years; VVN, KP/SED, was second BGL chairman till 17 May 1952, then became first BGL chairman; formerly in VEB Lammgarn Brandenburg
	Heinrich Schäfer, about 38 years old; organization chief in the BGL
	Paul Dachner, about 38 years old, directed the BGL competition was generator worker; "Brigadier", and AGL chairman; KP/SED; deputy BGL head since 1 June 1952
	Peter Neumann about 40 years old SPD/SED from Ofen.

25X1

SED Plant Group

Hans Ulbert, about 43 years old; KP/SED; first secretary of the group from January till May 1950

Robert Fremde, first secretary of the group from the middle of 1950 till December 1951

Eberhard Nintz, about 38 years old; KP/SED; attended training school for one year; secretary of the group since January 1952

Walter Altenkirch, about 42 years old; member of the Kreis committee of the Brandenburg SED, directs recruitments for Wismut and Vopo.

Willi Bundrock, about 36 years old; was crane operator; first secretary of the SED basic organization since the middle of 1952

Wilhelm Schilling, about 54 years old; before 1933 SPD after 1945 KP/SED Vopo in Brandenburg prison; was first secretary of the SED basic organization from the beginning of 1951 till May 1952

25X1 [redacted] COMMENT: The old Brandenburg Stahlwerk belonged to the [redacted] German steel mills of the Friedrich Flick Concern and was dismantled from 1945 to 1948. These mills were known as "Mittelstahl".